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Articles from newspapers in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, Florida, Virginia, and Delaware are presented. These articles protest against violence in the South. The major arguments are that: United States' national esteem at home and abroad is being lessened United States law courts are being made ineffective; communities are being considered disreputable because of the actions of a few members; and the safety of American citizens is being threatened.

Ways of combating violence are increased law enforcement, increased court punishments, and increased community efforts.

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THE SOUTH SPEAKS OUT

For Law and Order

A Roundup of Southern Press Opinion

Office of Education-EEOP
Research and Materials Branch

Bennett O. Stalvey

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE
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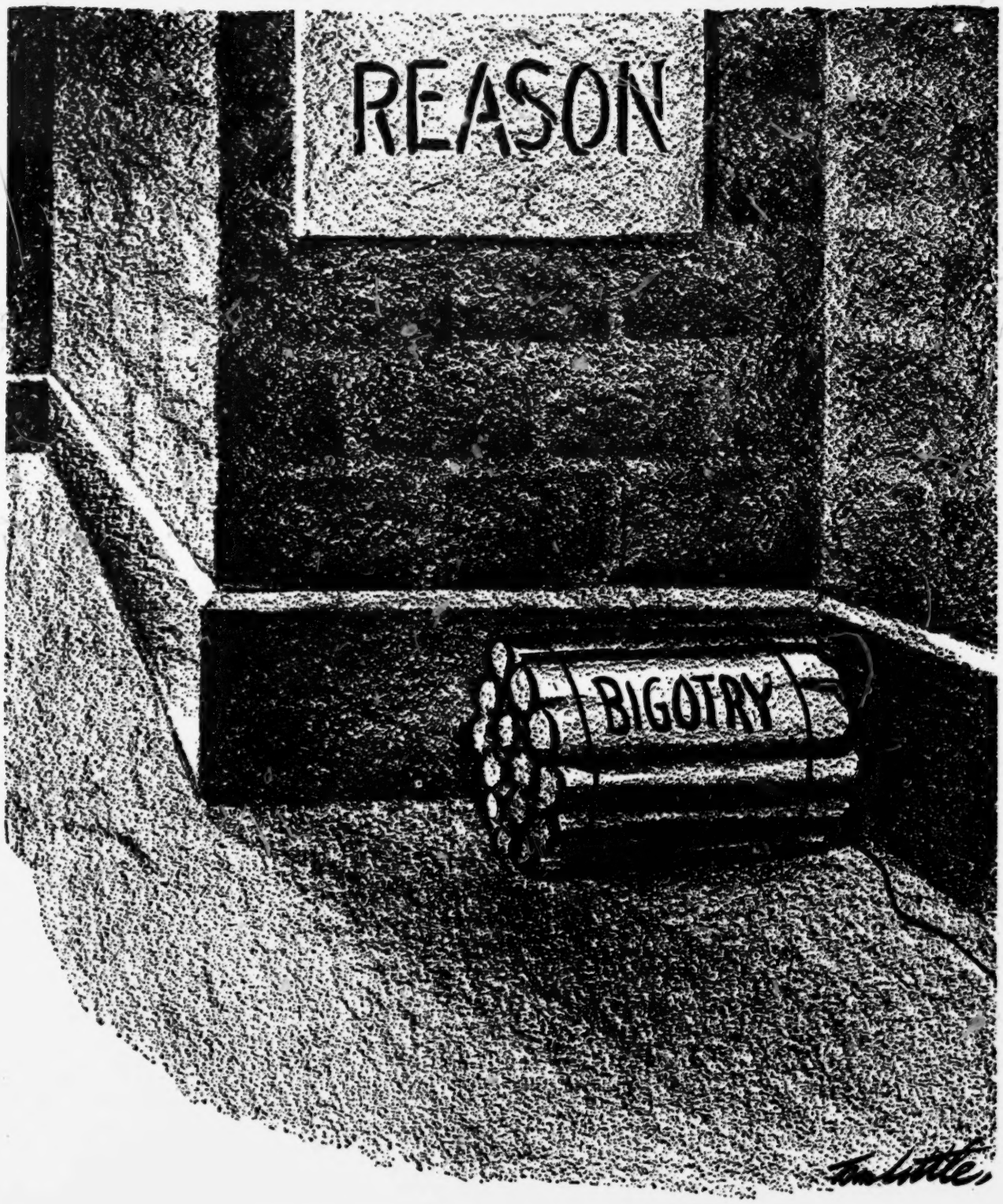
Deadly as the H-Bomb



THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, MARCH 18, 1958

ED00-2040

THE SOUTH SPEAKS OUT

For Law and Order

A Roundup of Southern Press Opinion

Published by

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RELATIONS,
UNITED CHURCH WOMEN,
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL EDUCATION AND ACTION,
THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Office of Education-EEOP

Research and Materials Branch

Foreword

Important social changes have marked Southern life during the past several years. As always in periods of far-reaching change, there will be a group of diehards who will resort to violence and lawlessness. The specific instances of bombings, burnings, and beatings in the South have been properly and objectively described by newspapers and other sections of the press throughout the country. The attention paid to these deeds of lawlessness, however, has perhaps obscured the more important truth that the vast majority of Southerners abhor and condemn the employment of violence as a concomitant of social change.

The Southern press accurately mirrors the sentiments and firm convictions of millions of Southerners that civil order and obedience to law are supreme values overriding any subsidiary issues.

This pamphlet has been prepared to show the widespread expressions of indignation and condemnation emanating from Southern communities. The extracts of editorials reprinted in this booklet constitute but a tiny selection from a large literature. We have tried to dramatize this fact by devoting the last pages of this compilation to a fuller selection of editorial expressions from just one Southern state—Alabama. We could have chosen any one of the Southern states.

While we do not wish our publication of this pamphlet to be interpreted as an endorsement of the varied editorial policies of the papers listed herein, we do, however, commend to the reader the forthright and vigorous stand they have taken in support of law and order.

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RELATIONS,
UNITED CHURCH WOMEN,
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

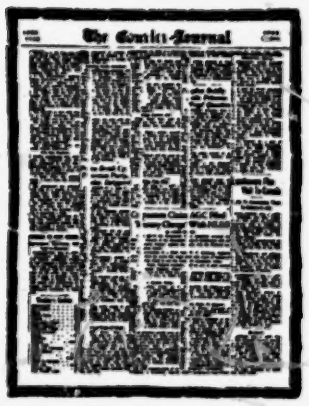
THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL EDUCATION AND ACTION,
THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JUNE, 1958

ATLANTA CONSTITUTION
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
September 12, 1957

No Law Condones Rule by Violence

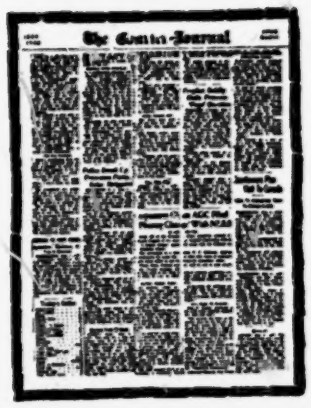


Dynamiting of that new school in Nashville goes beyond the question of segregation or desegregation. Responsible people in either category will not and cannot rationalize such irresponsible action. The school dynamiting is lawless destruction of public property, action of an irresponsible few who always look for excuses to express their violent tendencies in destructive acts. At least five persons have been arrested for this crime and should be brought to speedy justice.

. . . But violence and mob action is not condoned by the laws of any state nor those of the nation. If permitted to go unchecked, bloodshed and a state of anarchy are inevitable in such situations. All suffer from the criminal actions of a few.

The crackdown in Nashville by established police thus will be welcomed by segregationists and desegregationists alike. Putting all personal convictions aside on this issue, no one wants mob action substituted for law and order. Regardless of race, those who endanger the lives and property of others must pay the legal consequences.

Lawlessness and violence will not solve this problem. They can only make it worse for those who are struggling for reasonable, sensible solutions. And most definitely do they not serve the cause of those who would preserve the segregation pattern.



CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
January 6, 1958

Destructive Acts Hurt All of Us

As dynamitings go, the blast that blew a hole in a drive-in theater marquee, near Charlotte, was relatively harmless. A single stick of dynamite was used, and it clearly was not intended to harm anyone.

But as a symbol of senseless violence, the explosion is a dead-serious matter. It recalls the attempted dynamiting of Temple Beth-El here nearly two months ago—a crime that is still unsolved. It is a disturbing reminder that there is a kind of twisted thinking that seeks expression through acts of destruction. . . .

One sure result of these acts of violence is a black eye for a community. Such a malevolent brand of lawlessness can tear down a good reputation in a hurry. . . .

CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
February 22, 1956

KKK Deserves Contempt

. . . Not only is the principle of the KKK wrong and a threat to law and order, but the coercive organization is also a hindrance to the South in its efforts to maintain its social traditions. It is a skeleton in the South's closet, a shame to be apologized for, a source of embarrassment, and of no benefit to the South.

If the South relies upon bedsheets and burning crosses, if misguided individuals seek recourse through whip and gun, if violence becomes an accepted tool, then the South not only will lose in its efforts to maintain its traditions, but will deserve the defeat.

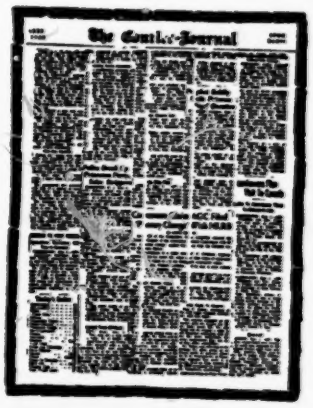
* * *

CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE
March 18, 1957

A Dead-End Street

. . . The KKK can do nothing for the South; it is powerless of constructive acts. But it can do harm to the South by discrediting this section. If the Ku Klux Klan is not violent and coercive, it is nothing. And violence and coercion by the Klan—or by any other group—cannot be tolerated by any respectable community, whatever the goal it seeks to accomplish. . . .

The problems and difficulties that lie ahead are many and great. They will never be met or solved by hate-mongering or parading or burning fiery crosses.



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA
March 21, 1958

A Blow for Conscience and for Law

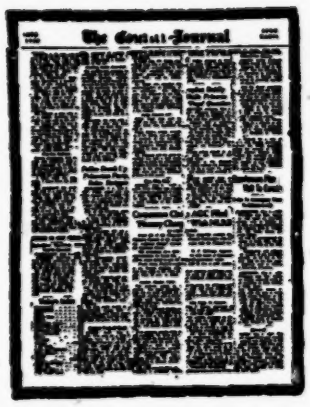
A Mecklenburg jury and Judge Zeb Nettles have sent three Ku Klux Klansmen on their way to prison for plotting to bomb a Negro school.

The conclusion of the Superior Court trial appears to satisfy the law and the conscience of this community, both of which were deeply involved in the case.

It should also serve as a stern warning that Charlotte and Mecklenburg will not tolerate destructive and hateful acts of stupidity on the part of men who take the law into their own hands but who have no knowledge of or concern for what the law says. . . .

* * *

THE STATE
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA
September 26, 1957



Can't Condone Violence

The state cannot condone violence. It never has, and never will. Neither can it condone the actions of agitators, and others, who bring about violence. . . .

Mob rule has no place in our country. . . .

COLUMBUS CITIZEN
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
August 16, 1956

Bad Night in Rosary

Burning of a fiery cross on the yard of a Negro home Tuesday night had the tragic irony of the Christian symbol being used for a most un-Christian act in a neighborhood named Rosary.

The sheriff's office announced it will "get to the bottom of this." Which, of course, is exactly what it should do. We want no revival of the Ku Klux here. We want no lawless violence, whether the violence is for crime, over labor disputes or, as in this instance, over race feeling. . . .

* * *

The Courier-Journal

DELTA DEMOCRAT-TIMES
DELTA, MISSISSIPPI
September 4, 1956

When Mobs Take Over

The disorders at Clinton, Tennessee, and Mansfield, Texas, cannot be dismissed or explained away as simply the work of irresponsible teen-agers, undesirable older citizens and "outsiders," goaded to temporary fury by deliberate agitators. Whatever the ages, residences, occupations or inspiration of the rioters, theirs is the face and the voice and the spirit of the mob.

There is only one way to handle a mob and that is to cow it through swift and determined counter-action. . . .

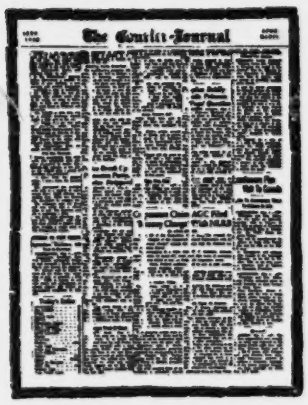
There can be no condoning of violence as a means of thwarting the Supreme Court's ruling. . . .

HOUSTON CHRONICLE
HOUSTON, TEXAS
August 17, 1955

Sane-Thinking Texans Will Not Tolerate Revival of Ku Klux Klan

Regardless of how anyone feels about the Supreme Court ruling ordering desegregation in the public schools, he is not justified in seeking a revival of the Ku Klux Klan. Klanism is anarchy, in which secret members who skulk about in shadowy operations attempt to take the law into their own hands. . . .

Terrorism and bloodshed can accomplish no good. Decent sane-thinking citizens of Texas, whether they be for or against desegregation, will not tolerate a revival of a sinister underground organization of terrorists, under the name of Ku Klux Klan or any other name.



HOUSTON POST
HOUSTON, TEXAS
September 7, 1957

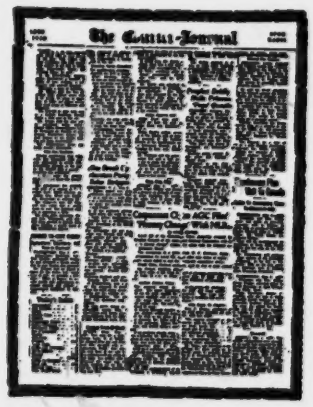
Law Must Be Upheld . . .

The President of the United States has answered the governor of Arkansas in the only way possible: The President will uphold the federal Constitution by every legal means at his command.

There can be no question of the rightness of the answer. The President has no other course. Ours is a government of law and any challenge to it such as occurred in Little Rock must be put down, if 165 million Americans are to sleep peacefully. . . .

* * *

ARKANSAS GAZETTE
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
May 2, 1958



Not the Confederacy

. . . The local chapter of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans has vigorously denounced the "atrocities being committed in the name of the Confederacy."

The resolution was aimed at the use of the term "Confederate Underground" by the hoodlums in Jacksonville, Florida, who have bombed a synagogue. . . .

The association of such cowardly terrorism with the name of Confederacy is about as wide of the mark as it is possible to get. . . .

ARKANSAS GAZETTE
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
May 6, 1958

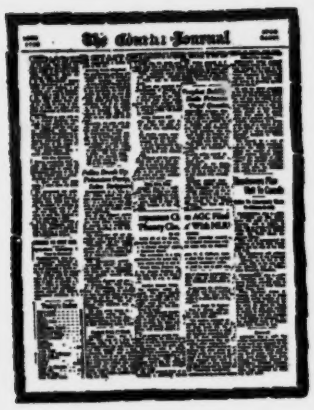
Bombs and Justice

Every community has a certain number of citizens who are clinging to reality by the barest of fingerholds. They are not, usually, psychotic in the psychiatric sense, but they are disturbed —beset by fears which they tend to translate into hatred. . . .

It is safe to assume that it is some of these, who combine their neurosis with the instinct of the bully-boy, who have gone forth to desecrate houses of worship in several Southern states.

Riding the tide of racial tension that now besets the region they first placed their dynamite bombs in churches with Negro congregations. But inevitably Jewish synagogues have also been targets in Nashville, Jacksonville, Birmingham and Montgomery.

The halting of this vandalism is, first of all, a police problem —even though it clearly is one complicated by the extreme agitation on the race question that goes on now across the region.

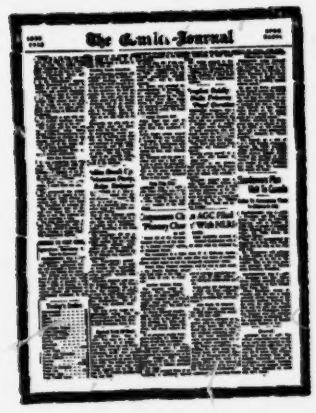


Official representatives of 29 Southern cities have now formally recognized it as such, and meeting in Jacksonville they have in effect pooled their police resources. In doing so the mayors, police chiefs, and other officials were reflecting the sense of shock and outrage that has been felt by Southerners everywhere.

We can hope that this effort will bear fruit—even though we find it remarkable and disturbing that the FBI's official reaction was to lend no formal support to the program.

The vandals who are responsible for these outrages must be brought to firm and speedy justice. But beyond that the people of the South must make it clear that violence of this character cannot be tolerated, and in the process remove from public life all those who wantonly encourage it.

LOUISVILLE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
September 6, 1956



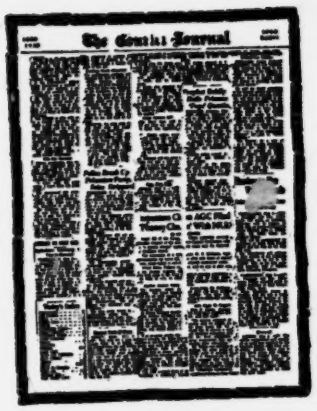
No Welcome for Mob Law in Kentucky

In a situation where delay might spell disaster Governor Chandler acted with commendable promptness to remind Kentuckians that law and order will be preserved.

On Tuesday an unruly mob of 500 prevented eight Negro youths from entering classes at Sturgis High School. By Wednesday morning 12 State troopers were on hand to maintain order—but the temporary triumph of the mob was indicated by the nonappearance of the Negro students. Within a short time the Kentucky National Guard was alerted, top Guard and State Police officers had flown to Sturgis. Governor Chandler's orders were succinct: "Don't take time to call me. If you have to act, don't hesitate." . . .

Such flareups over the South are dismal enough, toying as they do with the dynamite of racial prejudice and inviting the substitution of mob rule for law. But in Kentucky and elsewhere, it is good to note that they are the exception, not the rule. The majority may not like the law calling for desegregation of public schools, but they know that they prefer the law to lawlessness. . . .

LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
September 8, 1956



Issue at Sturgis Is Mob Rule Versus Law and Order

Governor Chandler has succinctly stated the issue at Sturgis. It is not segregation. That has been settled by the Supreme Court. The real issue at Sturgis is law and order versus mob rule.

Mr. Chandler says he regrets that it has been necessary to send the state militia into Sturgis. So does every right-thinking Kentuckian. But it was that or succumb to mob rule after what happened Tuesday when nine colored students tried to exercise their lawful right to attend classes in the Sturgis high school.

The mob on that day has been described by Sturgis sources as "peaceful." The fact remains that the colored children were turned back against their own free will. To prevent a recurrence of that outrage, or something worse, the governor took the only course open to him in calling out the guard. To have failed to do so would have been unpardonable neglect.

As he has pointed out, it is his sworn duty "to protect the humblest citizen." That includes, of course, protection of legal rights as well as protection from physical harm. Toward that end he has promised that the guard will remain in Sturgis as long as it is needed there to keep order. We hope that won't be long. But we hope even more that there won't be a premature withdrawal.

We quite agree with Mr. Chandler that if the time ever comes when this proud commonwealth cannot keep law and order it will be "time to turn in our charter."

MACON NEWS
MACON, GEORGIA
December 6, 1956

Hoodlums Harm Cause of South

The blood of every decent person of good will must have boiled upon reading of the brutal attack by hoodlums on a Clinton, Tenn., minister who escorted six Negroes to school classes.

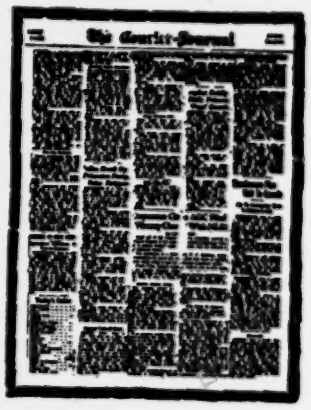
No matter how firmly one may be convinced of the wisdom of maintaining racial segregation in the South until most of the people are willing to accept integration in the schools, one cannot condone this vicious beating of a Baptist preacher. The Rev. Paul Turner had done no one harm. . . .

By such actions as the attack on Mr. Turner, segregation extremists do untold harm to the South's case. They seek to introduce blood and thunder as arguments while wiser Southern heads are attempting to debate with cool-headed reason.

* * *

MACON NEWS
MACON, GEORGIA
January 26, 1957

Most Prefer Non-Violence



. . . What many citizens of the non-South do not realize is that all over this broad region decent and good men, respectful of the rights of all mankind, are earnestly seeking to work out the problem without permitting the extremists to resort to violence. Respectable Southerners, who do not operate in hoods or robes, or in secret night meetings, are attempting to keep integration resistance in legal channels. They know that every bombing, every shooting, every incident of violence, hurts the South because such lawlessness is interpreted as a common trait of the region. . . .

MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE
August 18, 1957

Entirely Outrageous

Men cloaked in Ku Klux Klan regalia have beaten unoffending Negroes in two Alabama counties within the last few days. Their conduct was entirely outrageous and merits the widespread and bitter condemnation it has called forth. In fairness, too, it should be noted that the sharpest indictment has come from responsible Alabama newspapers. . . .

The communities concerned in these most recent outrages have moved in, though unfortunately not before damage had been done. What has happened should be an incentive to all people of good will to behave with even greater emphasis on that which is legal and reasonable in the handling of a matter of major importance.

* * *

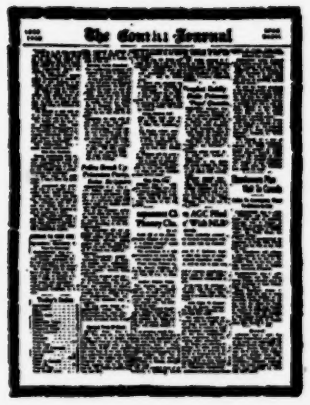
MIAMI HERALD
MIAMI, FLORIDA
September 25, 1957

Defiance of Law by Mob Had To Be Put Down

THE MOB SITUATION and rioting in Arkansas over school integration is as disgraceful as it is deplorable.

. . . Until law and order as well as respect for both are restored, the Federal Government and decent local citizenry are outraged. . . .

MIAMI NEWS
MIAMI, FLORIDA
May 15, 1958



Recent Bombings in South

. . . From Beaumont, Texas, to Greensboro, North Carolina, in Oklahoma, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, and in Florida, there have been bombings or attempts at bombings. . . .

We have two comments on this and the other 44 bombings.

One is that these bombings should not be considered in any way mixed up with the social problems of the South. To bomb a Negro school, perhaps to kill people, Negro or otherwise, as they attend church, has no political or social status. This is hoodlum work, and the people who bomb such places are hoodlums. They are not Segregationists. They are hoods. . . .

Our second broad comment is that society should get a hustle on to find these people.

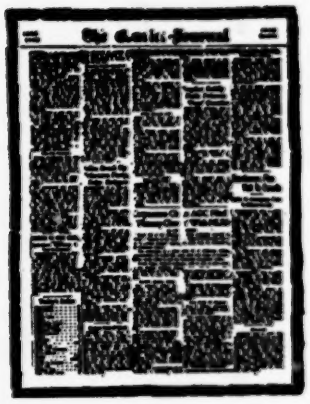
After 45 bombings, not one creature has been arrested.

This is fantastic.

It does not matter whether you believe in Integration or Segregation. Certainly, you do not believe that the Negro should be bombed in the night. Or the Jew. Or the Catholic, and the Catholics have been. Or the Protestants, and mister, if they bomb the Negro, the Jew, the Catholic, then the Protestant is next.

These bombings are so many scabs across the face of the South, and we must pursue the people who bring a bad name to a section of our country, a section which largely abides by law and respects the contrary opinion.

BILL BAGGS, *Editor.*



MOULTRIE OBSERVER
MOULTRIE, GEORGIA
October 5, 1957

The South Won't Tolerate Violent Acts of Mobsters

. . . The opposition to integration does not, as some characters would like to believe, give anyone or any group a license to destroy and terrorize. The people of the South have been among this country's most patriotic and loyal citizens and the South has certainly produced some of the nation's most independent thinkers. They are determined, however, that their way of life shall be preserved without violence.

Persons who, by hate and prejudice or in the hope of setting off racial outbreaks, would burn or dynamite a school are not worthy of the true South and its traditions. The South has been angered by insinuations that everybody is an "extremist" or a member of a "mob." It does not intend to sit idly by and permit irresponsible roughnecks to bring about a reign of terror or take into their own hands the authority which belongs to duly elected officials.

The roads are but two: Fair and foul. Real Southerners will take the former route and they will help hunt down those who take the detour.

NASHVILLE BANNER
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
March 17, 1958

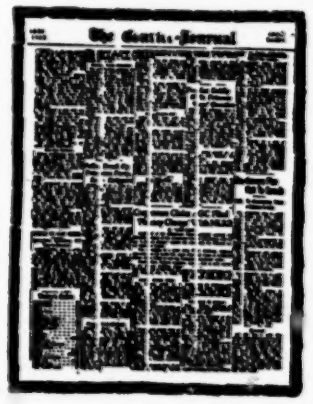
Terrorist Handiwork: A Blot to Expunge

Criminal insanity, malice gone berserk—reason dethroned to sow with dynamite the seed of terror—whatever the motivation, decency stands appalled at the handiwork of some twisted mind. Along with the promptings of instant justice, security itself demands the swift apprehension and punishment of plotter or plotters of last night's infamy visited not alone on the Jewish Community Center, but on the city of Nashville.

. . . There is every reason for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to join fully this case. Its ramifications are wide. From its threat whispered anonymously to the explosion rocking a building where shortly before hundreds had been congregated, it involves circumstances justifying municipal, state, and federal mobilization of inquiry and law enforcement—which cannot stop short of complete solution and conviction.

. . . It is time for intelligent and concerted effort to SOLVE this case, to establish once and for all the supremacy of law and decency's ability to extinguish sparks imperiling it. The shock of last night's explosion surely has awakened all concerned to the grim and ugly realities of this challenge.

Wherever the chips may fall, the law can only hew to the line of justice and duty, considerations of decency, community pride and security demanding it.

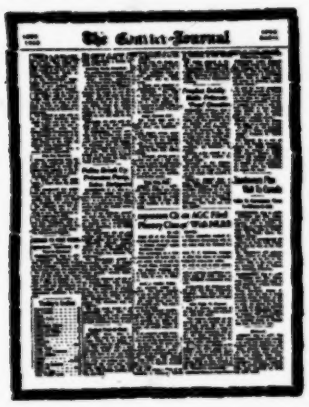


NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
July 24, 1957

Clinton Case Convictions Sustain Law and Order

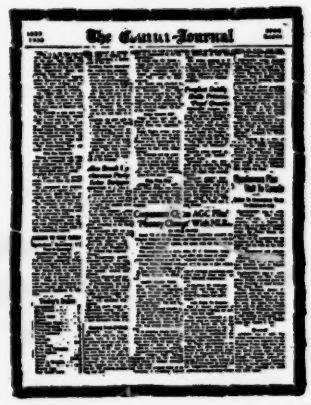
An East Tennessee jury took its stand for law and order yesterday in Knoxville when it convicted John Kasper and six of nine other defendants of criminal libel in the Clinton school case.

. . . There is some national significance to the verdict, of course, in view of the debate in congress over civil rights. But this was essentially a test of the court's right to call for orderly procedure and its chief importance is that Tennessee's respect for law is not to be shaken by professional agitators who come from afar with the single purpose of fomenting strife and undermining respect for the courts. . . .



NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
March 18, 1958

More Kasper Cult Violence Is Poison to Nashville Air


The Courier-Journal

Nashville, as a proud and civilized city, cannot fail to meet the challenge of bigot-induced criminality responsible for bombing the Jewish Community Center Sunday.

. . . First a school, then a community center restricted to no single religious group, and now the warning is that a Jewish Temple has been singled out for devastation. And that brings up the question of where the end will be if the menace is not stopped in its tracks. How safe can any person or institution be if this nihilistic movement is not broken up and held accountable to the law?

In this democratic land there is no excuse at all for bomb-throwing individuals of twisted mentalities who think only in terms of gangsterism.

. . . Significantly enough, dynamiters with a similar purpose have been active in Miami and Gastonia, North Carolina. An investigation should ascertain if this is part of one concerted movement, under distant control, designed to browbeat the South into surrendering its reason and respect for law. As the FBI probes the Nashville situation, in company with every other enforcement agency, this is a possible development that deserves the closest scrutiny. . . .

TIMES-HERALD
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA
January 29, 1958

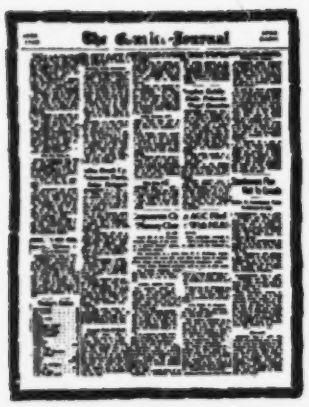
Not Hospitable to Kluxery

. . . Our communities here on the Peninsula have gone on record through their constituted officials as not wanting the Klan and applying the law where it can be invoked to uphold that position. . . .

* * *

THE PORTSMOUTH STAR
and
NORFOLK LEDGER-DISPATCH
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA
January 28, 1958

Poor Climate for the Klan



. . . The law, therefore, covers practically everything that the Klan could do, in public or private, in Virginia to carry out Klan policies. Virginia does not afford good climate for Klan activities.

* * *

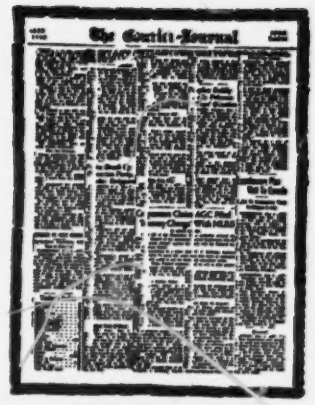
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
September 10, 1955

Dynamite Never Settles Anything

. . . The Times-Dispatch . . . appreciates the position of those who are strongly against a program of State-wide racial intermingling, but it cannot condone the sort of hoodlumism and intolerance that is represented by the occurrences in Guilford. . . .

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
September 2, 1956

Mobs and Crosses Are No Answer



. . . Mobs, cross-burnings and other examples of lawlessness have no place in Virginia. They should be dealt with to the full extent of the law.

* * *

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
December 23, 1957

Let 'Em Stay Out of Virginia

More than two weeks have passed since a ridiculous gang of bedsheeted heroes terming themselves the Ku Klux Klan huddled in a muddy cowpasture near the North Carolina line, the first such gathering on Virginia soil in many years. It should be the last.

Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders of Virginia have issued a statement elsewhere in today's paper calling on religiously motivated citizens and police officers to be on the alert for any manifestations on Virginia soil of "the klan's terrorist tactics and its appeals to the evil passions of hatred and bigotry." The statement is appropriate and timely. . . .

To repeat, Virginia doesn't want to be saved by these hornswogglers and fervent seekers after boodle.

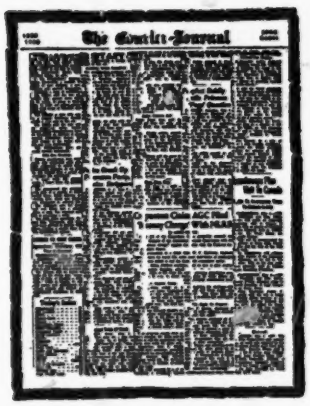
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
September 2, 1956

An Issue of Law or Anarchy

The issue in Clinton, Tenn., and Mansfield, Texas, is not racial integration in the public schools. There as im other communities where violence has been stirred up by hate-filled segregationists, the issue is plainly and simply one of law against anarchy.

In both communities, the high schools were opened to Negroes in compliance with clear and exhaustively considered orders of United States district courts, based upon clear and exhaustively considered decisions of the United States Supreme Court, and backed up by clear and exhaustively considered review before United States Circuit Courts of Appeal.

The only question for Clinton, Tenn., and Mansfield, Texas, is whether its citizens are going to live by these decisions of the courts, or by the furies of a maddened mob. . . .



ST. PETERSBURG TIMES
ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA
March 12, 1958

Klan Not Welcome Hereabouts

. . . PRESERVATION OF A SYSTEM of second-class citizenship through segregation and discrimination is indefensible enough when accomplished by legal technicalities and "peaceful" evasion of compliance with the Supreme Court's rulings.

When accompanied by intimidation and terrorism, such subversion of the law is utterly intolerable. . . .

DECENT CITIZENS of both races deeply want to reach an intelligent and reasoned solution to present tensions and unrest.

This can only be accomplished by the exercise of great good will and moderation. Excesses of partisanship and anything smacking of terroristic tactics can only lead to the worsening of a bad situation.

TAMPA MORNING TRIBUNE
TAMPA, FLORIDA
April 29, 1958

Find the Faces

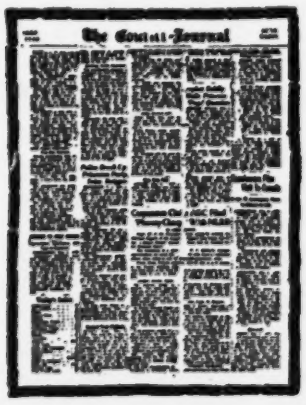
Dynamite sticks fused with bigotry were set off yesterday in Jacksonville, damaging a Negro schoolhouse and a Jewish synagogue.

. . . It may well be that the dynamite was set off by a couple of crackpots, representing nobody but themselves.

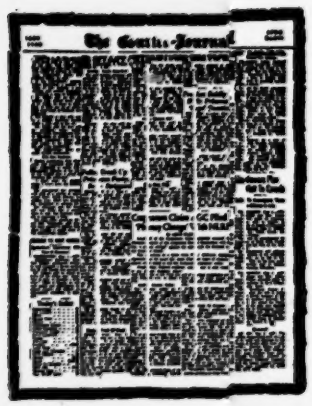
But authorities would not be justified in making any such assumption. There have been too many other bombings in the South directed against Negroes and Jews. Just six weeks ago a synagogue at Miami and another at Nashville, Tenn., were dynamited on the same day. And yesterday an attempt to blow up a synagogue in Birmingham failed only because the fuse sputtered out.

All the resources of state and local investigators must be used to try to catch these jackals who carry matches.

Nothing stops these terrorists more effectively than the fear of going to prison. These men who are so brave in the dark never show much courage when called to account in the daylight. But their night-time boldness will increase with every unpunished act of violence. . . .



WILMINGTON JOURNAL—EVERY EVENING
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE
September 1, 1956

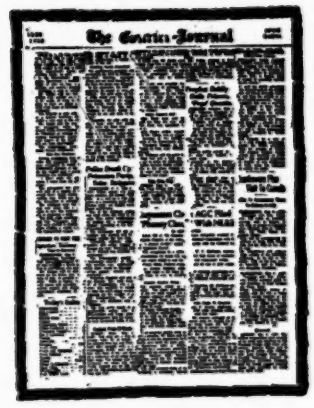


The Mobs Take Over

Out of our own experience of two years ago, we in Delaware can feel the deepest sympathy with the two small towns, in Texas and in Tennessee, where angry mobs are rioting against the mixing of white and Negro children in the same schools. . . .

What has turned these towns into battlegrounds is that decent and law-abiding citizens have temporarily abandoned leadership to the rule of the mob. In Mansfield, Tex., contrary to the usual pattern, the mob leader seems to be home-grown. But in Clinton, Tenn., as in most of the towns where events have taken this ugly and frightening turn, it is outside agitators from Alabama and Washington, D. C., who have lit the torch that has set the town aflame.

It might be said with justice that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who instituted the lawsuits, is also agitating the issue from the outside. But while we hold no brief for the NAACP, it is at least following the peaceful processes of the courts. The leaders of the White Citizens' Councils are deliberately trying to foment hatred, to deepen strife, and to so intimidate the government and the courts by threats of bloodshed that they will be afraid to enforce the law. . . .



WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA
April, 1958

Dangerous Hatred

Without question the police authorities in Florida and Tennessee will make every effort to bring speedily to justice the persons responsible for the dynamiting of Jewish buildings in Miami and Nashville. These acts of criminal violence, motivated, as anonymous calls before the blasts indicated, by the integration issue, reflect prejudice, hatred and intolerance in their most vicious form.

To some extent these acts of malicious destruction may reflect an explosive social climate created by the controversy over school desegregation in the South. But the vicious elements in Southern society which are capable of crimes like this indubitably constitute a very tiny minority in any community. The best way to prevent repetitions of their acts is to run them down as quickly as possible and see that they are speedily tried and effectively punished. . . .

Determined, public-supported law enforcement against the dynamite fanatics who are attempting to terrorize racial and religious groups will not, of course, destroy the insane emotionalism, uninformed prejudice and hatred behind the acts. But in punishing them the authorities will also put other troublemakers of their ilk on notice that the South will not tolerate rule by terrorism.

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA
May 10, 1958

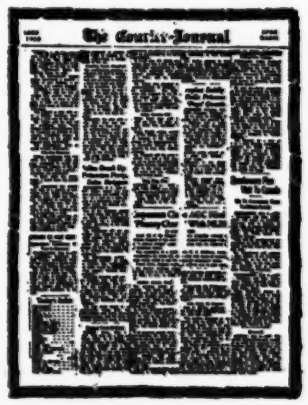
Move Against Terrorism

The organization formed by 29 Southern cities in an effort to end anti-Jewish and anti-Negro bombings is an example of regional cooperation at its best.

The dynamitings of synagogues, schools and homes in the past year or so seem to have followed a similar pattern. This fact tends to bear out the conclusion of Mayor Ben West of Nashville, Tenn., that at least some of the bombings are the work of a trained, organized group on the lunatic fringe. . . .

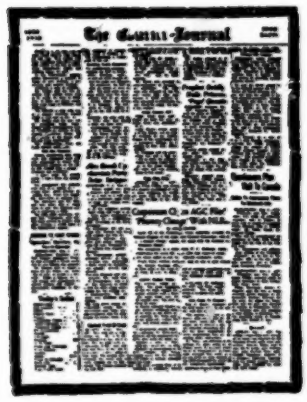
How much the federal government can do about those who plant bombs is not entirely clear. Attorney General William P. Rogers says that no basis for federal jurisdiction exists so far. But the FBI does have broad powers to act against criminals who operate across state boundaries—and it may develop that an interstate crime network is involved in these incidents. Therefore, the North Carolina B'nai B'rith Association was certainly within the bounds of reason when it asked for federal intervention in a resolution adopted here Sunday.

Regardless of whether the federal government does move in, the cooperative effort of the cities can be useful. If would-be dynamiters know in advance that police all over the region are on the alert and that a heavy price rests on the heads of trouble-makers, they may think twice before they carry out their missions of hate.



ALABAMA

A More Intensive Selection
of Editorial Opinion
From One State



TALLADEGA DAILY HOME
TALLADEGA, ALABAMA
June, 1957

An Investigation Is in Order

It goes without saying that a vast majority of the citizens of Sylacauga and Talladega County as a whole deeply deplore the threat of an anonymous male telephone caller to bomb the homes of two Sylacauga ministers. . . .

It hardly seems necessary to point out that bombings and threats of bombings have no place in any civilized community.

The bombing threat, delivered to an innocent woman and directed toward her husband, her baby and her home, was cruel and outrageous.

We believe we express the view of all responsible Talladega County citizens in stating that every effort should be made to determine the identity of the caller and bring him to justice.

ANNISTON STAR
ANNISTON, ALABAMA
June, 1957

South's New Importance

. . . We can solve our problem without vulgarity and violence. Our national esteem is at stake here at home and abroad.

* * *

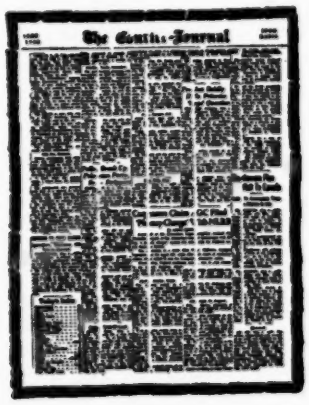
GADSDEN TIMES
GADSDEN, ALABAMA
June, 1957

Cross Burnings in Sylacauga

Crosses were recently burned near the First Methodist and First Baptist Churches of Sylacauga by robed Klansmen.

. . . These are the deplorable happenings in a fine Southern city—an American community. They are acts which should be outlawed, vigorously opposed by decent, law-abiding citizens.

What right can the KKK possibly claim to flaunt itself before the Church? It does indeed burn the Cross.



LEE COUNTY BULLETIN
AUBURN, ALABAMA
June, 1957

Good Police Work

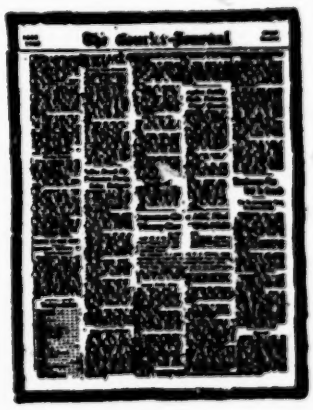
. . . Law cannot dictate that the haters and radicals purge their feelings in favor of good will and patience. But it can insist on order and safety. Thank goodness the vast majority of Alabamians find violence repugnant and stand instead in full support of faithful enforcement of the law.

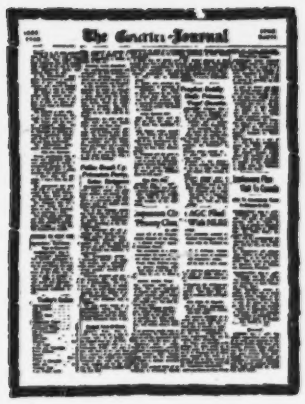
* * *

ANNISTON STAR
ANNISTON, ALABAMA
June, 1957

Must Klan Again Dominate Our State?

Lawlessness such as has been perpetrated by some members of the Klan, by some of the more radical Citizens Councils and by hoodlums in general, becomes an embarrassment to our friends in the Congress and weakens their efforts in the common cause of all right-thinking Southerners. . . .





GADSDEN TIMES
GADSDEN, ALABAMA
September 6, 1956

'Day' of the Klan Has Passed

. . . All of us should be well acquainted with the fact by now that the U. S. Supreme Court's decision on segregation is, whether it be right or wrong, the law of the land until it is repealed.

It will not be repealed by mob-spirit. Violence is met by violence and nothing worthwhile can come of threats and coercion. . . .

The hood of the Klan is now outlawed. But its threat to law and order in too many instances goes unchecked. It is too bold to be taken lightly.

There are members within its ranks, we feel sure, who are misled by the "Christian" banner which is unfurled over its operations. They should remember that deeds committed in the name of religion cannot be considered righteous if maltreatment of human beings is condoned. . . .

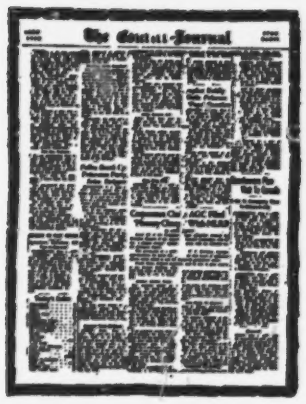
BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
February 14, 1956

No Time for Irresponsibility

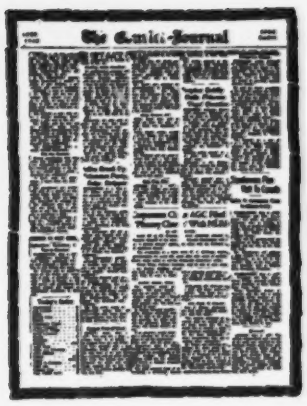
. . . We are witnessing with mixed concern of misgiving and hope the rise of Citizens Councils and similar organizations throughout the South.

Our hope is that they always will be guided and directed by citizens who stand uncompromisingly for law and order. Our misgivings stem from the ever-present danger of deterioration into the lawless pattern of the Klan.

We are concerned by hate-filled, inflammatory literature imported by one "Council" for distribution along with its membership application blanks.



LEE COUNTY BULLETIN
AUBURN, ALABAMA
June, 1957



The Klan and the Cross

Only the lunatic, venom-spouting fringe in Alabama condones the burning of crosses.

What for nearly 2,000 years has been a symbol of the Christian religion is totally incompatible with the violence and hatred which characterize the Ku Klux Klan. Only the most perverted mind could find the two harmonious.

The KKK now has revealed how completely insensitive it is to the proprieties in this regard by burning crosses at Methodist and Baptist churches in Sylacauga. If it were seeking to reach the ultimate in blasphemy it attained almost total success.

Surely law enforcement authorities in Sylacauga will not let this deed go unpunished. We are certain the overwhelming majority of Sylacaugans oppose it. The same goes for all Alabama.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
April 29, 1958

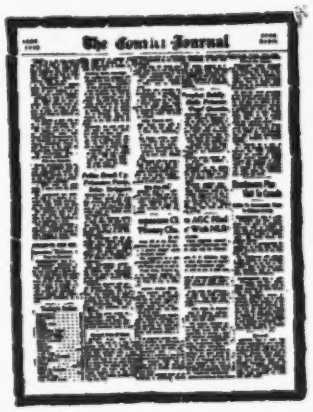
Bomb Try at Temple Is Deep Shock

The people of this community are deeply shocked and incensed by the bombing attempt at Temple Beth-El on Highland Avenue. A large quantity of dynamite, which could have caused tremendous destruction, was found at the synagogue, with fuse burned out. . . .

Such acts of barbaric madness are a frightful menace to the security and peace of the entire community.

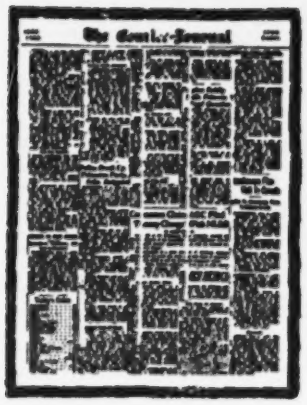
The outraged sentiment of all good citizens as to this ghastly enterprise should be vigorously expressed. It must be made emphatically clear that this sort of business simply will not be tolerated here.

The forces of the law should join in exhaustive and unrelenting quest for those responsible for this horrifying act. Assurances to that end are encouraging. The state of Alabama has offered a $2,000 reward for information leading to conviction of the guilty. . . .


The Courier Journal

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
May 1, 1958

Bomb Effort Deeply Stirs Our People



The sense of outrage and the deep determination burning among the people of this community over the revolting and horrifying bomb attempt against Temple Beth-El is finding eloquent and forceful expression in many ways—among citizens generally and in organization action.

Let this spirit and determination remain active in support of the intensive efforts now under way to find the guilty.

* * *

BIRMINGHAM POST-HERALD
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
June 1, 1957

Grave Symptoms

. . . If we are to have an orderly society, then no act that would undermine and weaken it must go unpunished.

If we are to have respect for law, then those who damn it and do it violence must be brought promptly to law and made to feel the sharpness of its penalties.

If law enforcement is to be effective, then the hands of our law enforcement officers must be upheld.

If our courts are to function, then jurors must face up honestly, and courageously to their sacred responsibilities.

Do what we may, we cannot escape the fact that there can be no compromise on things so fundamental.

BIRMINGHAM NEWS
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
September 10, 1957

Peace and Order Must Be Goal of All Our Sensible Citizens

Here in Birmingham as in Little Rock it is emphasized anew that peace and order must be the primary goal on all sides in racial controversy if further deterioration in racial relations and still more dangerous crises are to be averted.

Surely it must be plain to all good and sensible citizens that methods of violence and actions increasing the danger of violence menace the welfare of the people as a whole. . . .

The great majority of white and Negro citizens who desire to avoid violence in such matters must find effective ways of curbing it through the influence of public opinion and through support of order and officials seeking to uphold it. . . .